

Summary

The transcript is a conversation between a mother and her son discussing family history and ancestry. It covers topics like family members' education, careers, marriages, living situations over the years, ancestry, and some childhood anecdotes. No explicit decisions are made but key details emerge on where and when different relatives lived, their occupations, schooling, marriages and more.

Chapters

Introducing the Mother and Son

The grandmother and grandson briefly introduce themselves and the recording equipment before formally starting the conversation on family history.

00:06:11 Grandparents' Backgrounds and Marriage

The mother provides background on her parents and husband's parents, how they met despite both being 35 years old, and decision to get married in the West Point chapel with family attending before seeing her parents off on a cruise.

00:17:03 Husband's Early Railroad and Army Career

The husband had worked early on helping build railroads before attending West Point, serving briefly as an Army engineer, and returning home to work for Standard Oil and railroads.

00:35:43 Husband's Later Railroad, Business and Appraisal Careers

Later during the Depression, the husband lost railroad jobs but found work as a building manager and in appraisals for the Title Trust company and Prudential.

00:40:52 War Time Service and Housing Situations

The husband returned to Army service in early 1941 before Pearl Harbor, with the family living in various rented houses in Western Springs, Hinsdale and elsewhere over the years.

00:31:18 Remembering Son's Childhood Years

The grandmother recounts memories of the grandson and his siblings when they were very young children during the stays in Galesburg and Hinsdale.

Koke Milton 00:00

we are on the 19th of July jeez you know it's going yeah now it's going but there's now there's nobody here to record we get the thing going great I gotta shut it off anyway

Speaker 2 00:19

No.

Koke Milton 00:20

At least we know how to do it. Hold your breath, change your shoes. Here it goes. Oh, just rotate.

Tommy Patterson 00:29

I think that the cord may be working right here. I think the cord may be as one connector broken.

Koke Milton 00:37

training for that in school.

Speaker 2 00:39

Mm -hmm.

Anne Milton 00:41

he went he didn't go to any high school or that clip in there is lost it's sprung it's supposed to oh then in his 30s he went to girls wasn't he got the pharmacy

Tommy Patterson 00:54

Well now, is it running now? Yes, it is running.

Speaker 2 00:59

worked in the batteries.

Anne Milton 01:01

I will.

Tommy Patterson 01:03

There. And see, if you keep your eye on this, this flickers. If it flickers, then you know it's running.

Anne Milton 01:13

Yeah, I guess so, but Uncle Herman, Uncle Franny.

Koke Milton 01:18

There's that tailing in your back.

Tommy Patterson 01:20

No

Anne Milton 01:22

Lafayette, they had a preparatory school. It was part of the university, and he went here to the preparatory school. But then still graduated in four years. And Uncle Freddy, they thought he should learn more about Matt, and they sent him up to Chicago to stay with Aunt Anna and go to the public school and take eighth grade.

Anne Milton 01:40

And then he went from there to Purdue, and they all graduated with four -year courses.

Speaker 2 01:46

Mmm.

Anne Milton 01:48

Thank you.

Koke Milton 01:50

When you say they sent him there, I'm not going to care about them because, I want them to, they were... Grandfather Beckman sent all of them. Oh, not the school.

Anne Milton 02:01

Grandfather Beckman sent all his children that were going to go to school and sell them all to Purdue.

Koke Milton 02:06

The school did not send them, their grandfather sent them to eighth grade.

Anne Milton 02:12

to the schools usually send people.

Koke Milton 02:15

I didn't make any statement one way or the other about that. I wanted to clarify. We were talking about Perdue, and you said he went there, and then they found a need, so they sent him to Ann Annis to go, and I didn't know they meant they, that Perdue took it on himself to send him, or that was a decision that was made because he couldn't get in.

Anne Milton 02:30

It was made by Grandfather Beckman so he'd have a better chance to know a little something about that.

Koke Milton 02:37

Yes.

Anne Milton 02:39

do is so young it was just more or less just opening.

Speaker 2 02:43

Thank you.

Anne Milton 02:43

in those days. And so they were some of the beginners, but I wanted about my father. Why did he study pharmacy if he didn't like chemistry?

Koke Milton 02:55

Well, there would be a lot of possible reasons you're going to invent some. I don't know the real answer.

Anne Milton 03:00

We don't want to guess.

Koke Milton 03:01

Sure, I'd be glad to guess, but it won't be a guess, I don't want to put it down, as here's why I happen to know why your father went to it.

Tommy Patterson 03:07

to Pharisee school.

Koke Milton 03:09

that he was in a position where he said, Crete needs a drug store, but none of you may be doing it. I'm capable of opening this with my brother Charlie, but I need this training to go out and go do that and open this door, whether I like chemistry or not.

Anne Milton 03:30

Well, it's.

Tommy Patterson 03:30

Well, the reason that it makes sense is that Grandpa was not enamored of burying people. He started the cemetery because he felt that they needed one. So that makes sense to look around and see what they need.

Tommy Patterson 03:48

They were very devoted to Crete.

Koke Milton 03:52

Yeah. And he was certainly a business owner. Somehow he got into banking business, too. Oh, OK.

Anne Milton 03:56

While he was working in the drugstore, J .B. Stager, or no, Mr. McConaughey, came down and invited him to come and work in the bank.

Koke Milton 04:06

And then he went to work and then moved up to what? President. Yeah. Well, see. So he understood business and money, and people like that seemed to be able to move from business to business. He knew how to run a business.

Koke Milton 04:18

He went and learned the pharmacy of it, but it may have had nothing to do with love with chemistry. It was a possible store opening. He knew he needed that much. And I don't know what all the requirements were at that time.

Koke Milton 04:28

You know, when I got here, that store was selling Lydia Pinken's formula.

Tommy Patterson 04:32

Do you think he was a good storekeeper? No, I think he was a good businessman.

Koke Milton 04:37

I'm not an entrepreneur, I'm a businessman.

Anne Milton 04:39

When he was just out of grade school, he went down to work for Fred Meyer, and then he worked for Mr. Hister in Onarga, and there it was a store.

Koke Milton 04:50

Yeah, he learned, probably learned bookkeeping. Yeah.

Anne Milton 04:53

while he was there. He also was a mail carrier and used to have to go out with a mule to all the deep mud and get the bags of mail. Or was that when he was at Fred Meyers? Two places he was with Risser's and with Fred Meyers.

Anne Milton 05:08

And with Fred Meyers it was not quite the same as old Narga. At old Narga, besides working for Risser's, and I don't know whether he was a salesman or what he was there. But besides that, for his amusement, he went around with the boys from the academy.

Anne Milton 05:27

There was a military academy there. In old Narga. It's still there, but it's not military anymore. And I don't know if it's military or an alphabet. But all these friends that you hear me speak about, Mr.

Anne Milton 05:40

Stimson and Mr. Brown, Mr. Church, they were all buddies of his from old Narga who had been in the, what do you call that, when it was college, from territory school.

Speaker 2 05:55

Oh.

Anne Milton 05:56

And so, and they had a club, I still have a thing here where they had a club that they were, made themselves a senate or something. And Papa has all the minutes of it and what they wrote. And he had very nice association with these people.

Koke Milton 06:11

How far is La Narga from here? What's it near? I don't know. Less than 100 meters.

Anne Milton 06:17

miles.

Koke Milton 06:19

Okay, but at that time, we hadn't been living in Crete when we went to Ann Arbor. Yeah.

Anne Milton 06:23

I don't know quite how he got that job.

Koke Milton 06:27

I guess what I'm really curious about is how he ran into Grandma in Indiana.

Anne Milton 06:33

And my mother? Yeah. Oh, he was back to Monard by that time.

Koke Milton 06:37

Yeah.

Anne Milton 06:37

and living here and she was living in Brunswick. Oh, Mr. Siehausen, one of Mr. Siehausen's, I guess it was Shatsi's husband, was his name Gus Siehausen? I think so. He used to go to Brunswick and he took my father along for some reason or other and my father met the folks.

Koke Milton 07:01

over and rescue.

Anne Milton 07:05

It does seem funny, doesn't it?

Koke Milton 07:07

It's interesting to know what it is.

Anne Milton 07:10

I'll tell you another thing that I sometimes call them to explain is why they were both thirty -five when they got married and it's funny that they both waited so long to get married when they're thirty -five.

Koke Milton 07:21

What age were most people getting married then?

Anne Milton 07:24

I suppose 20 or 25, maybe?

Koke Milton 07:27

Yes, okay, it is funny then and you're reading that is what you understand or just think it's funny

Anne Milton 07:37

Never say why.

Tommy Patterson 07:38

How did you explain that? You say you were called on to explain why they were both thirty -five.

Anne Milton 07:46

I wasn't being called on to explain why they did that, but I mean people took exception to it. I didn't feel that I was on the spot to figure out some reason for it, and I don't know that I ever did figure out some reason for it.

Tommy Patterson 08:06

Did you ever ask, Grandma?

Anne Milton 08:08

Well, yeah, they both had been interested in someone else formally. I wouldn't say that they had broken love affairs or anything like that, exactly. I wound that pretty tightly, didn't I?

Tommy Patterson 08:23

Grandma gave us to understand in the most diplomatic response that I can imagine, she did not get married until she was 35 because she was waiting for the right man to come home. Which I think is lovely.

Tommy Patterson 08:42

Yeah, I'm not absolutely sure that I believe it, but I think...

Anne Milton 08:46

I thought remember that mama was taking care of the menage in Brunswick she had responsibilities and she had her father to take care of.

Koke Milton 08:54

was already married.

Anne Milton 08:55

Yeah, Cena and John were both married when their mother died, and then mama brought up the rest of them.

Koke Milton 09:05

Yeah, see I think that would make it bigger.

Anne Milton 09:08

And so she was pretty much tied down with all of that. And then after her father died, let's see. She wasn't married till after her father died. Oh, she wasn't? And my father, he had all this time in Onarga.

Speaker 2 09:24

Thank you.

Anne Milton 09:25

which he enjoyed, and I'm not sure, but I think that he had a girlfriend there that he liked terribly well, and whether she disappointed him or whether he disappointed her, I don't know the story about that.

Anne Milton 09:39

But anyway, he wasn't married, but most of the people were married by that age. And Mama said they both, they enjoyed meeting each other because they both came from a small country store background and they both knew running a country store up and down.

Anne Milton 09:54

They knew that. Yeah. See, Grandfather Beckman had a country store too.

Koke Milton 09:59

That's the one that used to actually go over and still see, yeah, I remember that.

Tommy Patterson 10:03

And I didn't realize that Grandpa Roy's father had had a country store. No, he didn't. Well, but they both had a country store background.

Anne Milton 10:11

Papa had that Rister's and then oh you mean grandpa did grandpa had that back then He knew all about that little about stores. Yeah

Tommy Patterson 10:22

Um, you told me once that, uh, grandfather Beckman had indicated something about re -marrying after grandma's mother died and that the children told him not to be the second- Mama didn't- Mama didn't want it.

Anne Milton 10:41

him to, but whether that was definitive, I don't know, but he didn't be married.

Tommy Patterson 10:50

Well lots of times men did remarry when their wives died, especially since so many died in childbirth.

Speaker 2 10:58

Mm -hmm.

Tommy Patterson 10:58

that I think it's interesting that Grandma told him she didn't want him to.

Anne Milton 11:05

I don't know if she told him that or if he could just feel it, I'm not sure, but maybe it would have been better if he had, because he was kind of lonely. But no matter who you are.

Koke Milton 11:20

What age was it that she died? Pardon? How long was she when she died?

Anne Milton 11:24

Grandma 97.

Tommy Patterson 11:27

No, wrong grammar. Your grammar.

Anne Milton 11:30

She was 43, and Mama was 17.

Koke Milton 11:37

Wow, but grandpa- This is what amazes me, because if I remember correctly, she got married at age 18, didn't she? 17. 17.

Anne Milton 11:44

And he's 30. The ones on the left are from the portraits and the ones on the right are

Tommy Patterson 11:51

photographs. But he didn't die until in his 70s. 72.

Anne Milton 11:56

See, those are photographs, and if you look at the other ones, they're portraits.

Tommy Patterson 12:04

She looks at least 30.

Koke Milton 12:09

but she's then 17 years old in this picture, isn't she?

Anne Milton 12:12

Well, that's about the time when she got married. She got some easy.

Speaker 2 12:17

He's 17, he's 30.

Koke Milton 12:19

18. 30. Yeah.

Speaker 2 12:20

Thank you.

Anne Milton 12:22

And the middle picture is my...

Koke Milton 12:27

That's what we talked about, isn't it? And somebody...

Anne Milton 12:33

somebody told me I looked like that, and somebody in the hell said... Oh no, she just... She looks like Mama. And both are probably right. I don't know. Do I look like that?

Koke Milton 12:45

Well, you know what I said about the way people look, you really look like yourself, and you catch glimpses of other people in it because it's there.

Anne Milton 12:53

I always hoped I looked like my mother but and people thought he almost like my father except captain that don't look like my mother

Koke Milton 13:01

And see, their bulk probably runs.

Anne Milton 13:08

But there's some people you don't want to look like.

Koke Milton 13:14

I don't look like Saddam Hussein. You don't.

Tommy Patterson 13:24

There was something you asked me that we had somewhat talked about the other day. Was it what CAP did for Standard Oil and then how he moved into the railroading and then how he moved into the real estate appraising?

Tommy Patterson 13:39

And I don't have that transition either because I do have...

Anne Milton 13:43

When he and Meli went to that thing, they learned a lot about the standard oil business, and Meli became the head of the lubrication department of standard oil. And that meant having all the salespeople get the right stuff for the right kinds of stuff.

Anne Milton 14:05

And he went a lot of places to look at stuff and to pass on stuff and to—well, he had a great expertise with cars in fighting, so that he knew all about lubrication. So lubrication sales, I guess, was that department, that department of standard oil, which was lubrication sales.

Anne Milton 14:27

And then he— Wait, that's what Meli was in. That was Meli. Yeah. But who knows when they started in the school what they were going to turn into? Well, nobody does. That's what Meli turned into. The captain cared for it very much, and he didn't stay after they finished a year or two or whatever it was.

Anne Milton 14:45

He went in—then he went to the railroad, didn't he? I don't know. Yeah. He was assistant road master for the Burlington for a long time, and he also formerly worked for the— Well, what did he do?

Koke Milton 15:01

It is the road master.

Anne Milton 15:04

Well, it went so real hard, he didn't come home. He was responsible for getting the tracks going and the road castle on.

Koke Milton 15:20

I'll kind of oversee the work and send them out.

Speaker 2 15:23

Mm -hmm. OK.

Koke Milton 15:24

But prior to going even to Standard Oil, he had an engineering degree from West Point. And then he had gone to school where? Purdue and had engineering degree.

Anne Milton 15:37

mechanical engineering and caps was kind of general, but I think that kept finally became part of the core of engineers I think he did oh, yeah

Koke Milton 15:47

because I remember his collar insignia for the Garros for engineers.

Anne Milton 15:51

So they can get blamed for a lot of stuff, don't they? No. The Corps of Engineers. Do they? Yeah. But anyway, then he was with the railroad, and he also was with the railroad when they put in the three -tip tracks when they made it a three -tip track thing.

Anne Milton 16:12

And that was when he went up to Minnesota, when we lived in Galesburg. He was with the Burnts, and then he helped build the third track. Is that what it was, a double track?

Speaker 2 16:31

three years.

Anne Milton 16:32

Yeah, and he did that, but before he ever went away to college, he worked for the Santa Fe, and he helped build that down in where would the Santa Fe be, Texas or someplace down there. He put in the Santa, when they put the Santa Fe, and he helped do that, and then he

Koke Milton 16:51

Do you know if they switch companies then to do that or not?

Anne Milton 16:54

Well then he did that before he went to college.

Koke Milton 16:57

all before. Oh, which is why he started college a year.

Anne Milton 17:03

Yeah, because you see he was a

Koke Milton 17:06

That's a 23. 23 and a half.

Anne Milton 17:07

I was a class of 23, but normally you should have been out of 22.

Koke Milton 17:14

So now that means that he got out of high school and went off board to the railroad and then somehow got the West Point appointment. Yeah. Do you know how that came to pass?

Anne Milton 17:23

Well, his father, so he's very modest, he didn't know some people that were, he had political positions, and I think they helped him get the appointment, but when he got the appointment, he only got the appointment as an aftermath, and then they had to take examinations, and he did well on those.

Anne Milton 17:46

So he really got in as an alternate appointment, and then, well, you know all about it in West Point what it was like.

Koke Milton 18:00

Well, anything you know about it that you can tell us, Mikey, I don't know.

Anne Milton 18:05

much interested in football and he was on the football squad but he never got to play in any Army Navy games. He sometimes didn't play in a lesser game once in a while. But his main contribution when he was on the football squad was that some of the people had to get their grades up to stuff to be allowed to play and he coached them and got them up to stuff.

Speaker 2 18:28

Go!

Anne Milton 18:28

And I think they considered that his major contribution. And that's when he tells you that the problems were about two horses or something. There's some mathematical problems. And when they got to it, if they asked about cows, they couldn't work.

Speaker 2 18:47

Ha, ha.

Anne Milton 18:52

So then he was, then after he graduated from West Point, he came to Chicago and he was with the Army a little while, and then he went to this thing over the line.

Koke Milton 19:04

little while. He graduated in 23 and was it maybe a year?

Anne Milton 19:10

Yeah, maybe a year with the engineers in Chicago or something like that.

Koke Milton 19:14

the rules now would be so different that's hard to understand why the army didn't want him to serve longer than that.

Anne Milton 19:22

He asked to get out or something. Yeah, he asked to get out. His family thought that they needed him in Chicago. And I don't know whether he did or not.

Koke Milton 19:34

Oh, did he but then he didn't stay in Chicago. We went off working. He's in the area

Anne Milton 19:41

He was in Chicago.

Koke Milton 19:43

Oh.

Anne Milton 19:43

Uh, he was with the railroad then.

Koke Milton 19:48

What about the standard oil paint terms?

Anne Milton 19:52

Yeah, but I'm not sure why he didn't like the job this day.

Koke Milton 19:56

was he went, didn't all that take place in Indiana? Oh, it just melted and moved to the Whiting Office and the rest of their standard oil experience was right here in Illinois.

Anne Milton 20:07

Well, these people, well, Nellie lived here, Nellie and Helen lived here, and for a while they had a room in Whiting, and then they came back here for the rest of that time, and Cap was staying at home, he was living at home.

Koke Milton 20:23

Again, working at some standard oil office in Chicago.

Anne Milton 20:27

knowing that they were transferred to Chicago Heights.

Speaker 2 20:32

And then...

Anne Milton 20:34

But you should have known Cap long enough to know that any information I would get would be rather vague about why he had to quit this or why he didn't want to stay with that. Now, one thing would be the story of the canvas.

Koke Milton 20:50

Yeah.

Anne Milton 20:51

And they had a training session after the school in Hawaii, and they had a long training session, and one of it was they had to go to these different people and make them sell canvas.

Speaker 2 21:00

And he.

Anne Milton 21:01

couldn't do that. He was not a good salesman. Oh, and then he, for a while, he was employed by Colonel Smith in Chicago. And I think that was an advertising agency. And he was no good at selling advertising either.

Anne Milton 21:22

He got along pretty well there, but he stayed about a year or two with him. Then he went to where was the next place he went.

Tommy Patterson 21:30

Well, by now, 23, 24, 45. Then he went back to the reboot. Yeah, now you're at about- Back to the- at what was he doing when you were married? That's 1927. He was with the railroad. He was with the railroad then.

Tommy Patterson 21:50

The Burlington. And was he in... Assistant Roadmaster. All right, and this, 1927. And so he was that until...

Koke Milton 22:02

But you actually meant while he was assigned to the Hates, Chicago Hates for Standard Oil.

Anne Milton 22:08

Yeah, but he didn't stay with his dad all night long.

Koke Milton 22:10

time in which he met a baby and that occurred

Anne Milton 22:15

I met them because this is the classes they had, training the youth, I met them at that dance. So would you say...

Tommy Patterson 22:24

Would you say that was 1925? How long did you know him before you got married? Oh...

Anne Milton 22:37

About two years, I guess. Well, let's guess in the meantime. I was teaching Yes And I talked in Michelle Walker for a year and then Elizabeth Redman Yes, who was a monitor house when we worked there in a rock room She invited me to go down and work in it's funny to say she invited me to do that She asked them to hire me What you call it being invited

Speaker 2 23:07

Yeah.

Anne Milton 23:08

Yes, and so I went down to Alabama for a year.

Koke Milton 23:14

in 1920.

Anne Milton 23:17

26, 25, 26, and then in January 9, 27, we were married, and he was with the railroad.

Koke Milton 23:32

Okay, now when the school year started in the fall of 1926, you didn't start in Alabama. You dropped the year 25 -26 down there and then came home and dropped that job.

Anne Milton 23:44

Well, I was here whole school year.

Koke Milton 23:47

yes fall of 25 till june of 26 then summer of all you came back up here now that you go to work and you had you already knew you were going to get married

Anne Milton 23:59

I went and worked in fields for the Christmas dress.

Koke Milton 24:03

But you knew at that time that the marriage date was set for... Yeah.

Anne Milton 24:07

January.

Koke Milton 24:08

Okay, and then went back to New, to West Point to get married.

Anne Milton 24:13

And this, I don't even know whether we should go into why we did that, because...

Tommy Patterson 24:17

I think it's very interesting. You do? Yes.

Anne Milton 24:21

None of them liked Pastor Wigg. Helen said that Pastor Wigg had made her and Mallie feel so terrible, and Aunt Marie had said to him, oh, you shouldn't marry anybody outside the church, which Aunt Marie did.

Anne Milton 24:34

She married somebody outside the church, and made Helen feel awful bad. And of course, Helen always hated Aunt Marie, and they all hated Pastor Wigg. And I just was at loose ends what to do. Didn't want Aunt Pastor Wigg married me.

Anne Milton 24:51

And so I was very much impressed with the chaplain at West Point. And I knew that Cap felt very close to Chaplain Wheat, who was the chaplain there at the time. And so we did that. And it so happened that Mama and Papa were planning to take that cruise, Mediterranean cruise, and their departure was set for January 29th.

Anne Milton 25:27

So we set the wedding date, so we'd all go to West Point. Then we'd go into New York City and see them off to go on this cruise, which we did.

Koke Milton 25:39

Mm -hmm. And is that when she went and saw the pyramids and loading the camels or was that a

Anne Milton 25:44

She didn't. That's the time grandma went to Egypt.

Speaker 2 25:50

Thank you.

Anne Milton 25:51

I did books of, I uploaded bad books of all that.

Koke Milton 25:55

I don't know. I just saw the pictures. I just never before put the dates. I just kind of imagined it happened early on something. But it was well after. It wasn't an early thing they did when they were young.

Koke Milton 26:05

No, it was never a young movie, but that's when it came to the day. It took the cruise about the same time you got married.

Tommy Patterson 26:13

Yeah.

Anne Milton 26:14

Exactly the same time.

Koke Milton 26:15

Yeah, it is.

Anne Milton 26:17

They were there, we were all at West Point, then we went back to New York, and then got on the ship and we stayed in New York. And then we went back the next night again to West Point for the dance. And then...

Anne Milton 26:28

Did they have a dance because you got married? No, they had to dance every Saturday night. Oh, we just went back. And then we traveled around a bit, and then we went to Gilbert Hayden's. That was his roommate.

Anne Milton 26:41

Yes. He wanted to see him. We went there, and they invited us to stay there one night. So we did that. And then we did several other things. You know, what people do.

Koke Milton 26:50

in Ohio at that time or somewhere else? That's probably somewhere else.

Anne Milton 26:56

He was somewhere in the east, it was right near that we were in New York again.

Koke Milton 27:01

But now, at the time that you got married to West Point then, Cap had already... He was in the guard room, Illinois Guard, was he?

Tommy Patterson 27:10

Was he already in the guard then?

Koke Milton 27:13

He certainly wasn't an active duty, and he could go to the chapel and get married anyway, though. He could go to the chapel and get married anyway, and his class gave you the silver, too.

Anne Milton 27:24

Everybody in the class got a judge's order.

Koke Milton 27:28

whether you got married or not.

Anne Milton 27:31

But I mean, that wasn't just somebody who liked us so well that we were going to get a silver. That was just a class decision that everybody that got married would get a chance to silver. Then we got our arches to silver.

Koke Milton 27:46

Yeah, I understand that, but I just meant that I was thinking what had happened that much after graduation.

Anne Milton 27:53

Well, all these people in this class didn't get married at Riley graduation.

Koke Milton 27:59

No, but in this case, it was four years later.

Anne Milton 28:04

Well, it could be 10 years later and the people next to us will still get that.

Koke Milton 28:08

Okay, but somebody asked an engineer collecting the money to pay for it.

Anne Milton 28:12

And I don't know whether C .A .P. was active in that department or not. I don't remember who took care of it and whether somebody wanted to resign from the class or something like that. And the mama said that would be like the end of resigning from being our daughter.

Koke Milton 28:34

That occurs nowadays, people do want to divorce their parents or whatever it's called.

Anne Milton 28:40

Well, anyway, then we got that silver travel around a little bit in the east, and I was very dumb historically. I'm thinking now, I could have asked half a lot of stuff historically, but I was too dumb.

Tommy Patterson 28:55

You mean about the places that you travel? Mr.

Anne Milton 28:58

I'm not near as conversant as Barbara is, at that time I didn't know.

Koke Milton 29:04

Well, but what you do know is what we're interested in. Nobody wants to... We're not trying to work up a penalty for a vote, or this is not a test to set the pass, but if you... See, I've already found some stuff that we didn't ask earlier.

Koke Milton 29:19

I knew kind of vaguely about the standard oil and the railroad at West Point, but the dates are a little clearer now, even though it constitutes a real gallimope of events.

Tommy Patterson 29:32

Well, but then after you got married and came back here and he was still with the railroad and then

Anne Milton 29:42

Springs. And then— The Fort Hinsdale? Yeah, we moved to Western Springs even before Puz was born. And then Puz was born, we came over here briefly, and then got the house in Western Springs. And then he was still with the railroad.

Anne Milton 30:01

And then the Depression set in.

Koke Milton 30:05

You've got which house in Western Springs? The only one that we ever owned.

Tommy Patterson 30:09

Oh, before we lived in Hinsdale? I didn't realize that you had that house even before Paz was born.

Anne Milton 30:18

Well, no, right after he was born. Yeah, but she's...

Tommy Patterson 30:21

And what were we doing?

Koke Milton 30:23

What the hell are we doing in Hinsdale?

Anne Milton 30:25

Well, while we were in Western Springs, then the railroad sent him to Galesburg.

Koke Milton 30:31

Bye.

Anne Milton 30:32

So, we went down there and rented a house in Galesburg for six months, and then... That's where Tom was born. Yeah.

Tommy Patterson 30:42

And you skipped him. He was alone. I'm glad you took it.

Koke Milton 30:50

His name was there. Okay. So what do you have?

Anne Milton 30:52

And remember that Mary Snowy came down, took care of you, and...

Koke Milton 30:56

I've been told that I remember the name and the name

Anne Milton 31:00

that I went to the hospital, or were unaware of that.

Koke Milton 31:06

I mean, I like to lie about it now since I'm sure that you went and say, well, I'm sure you went to the hospital, but no, I don't remember that recollection. I don't remember anything in Gales.

Tommy Patterson 31:18

You were only two and a half. No, he was only a year and a half. He was.

Anne Milton 31:24

It's the only year and a half older than you. Well, that's what you were then.

Koke Milton 31:28

Well, I used to be here to have Portland, yeah, it's been a lot of time.

Tommy Patterson 31:32

You can catch up.

Anne Milton 31:35

and velc-

Koke Milton 31:36

Okay, I do now remember Gail's group

Anne Milton 31:39

People discounted you. They thought of buzzing and they thought of dumb dumb and they discounted you a little bit, but you were awful cute

Koke Milton 31:48

It's too late to make it out, I've already got this complex.

Anne Milton 31:52

But anyway, Puss came to the hospital to see me, and he picked a little bunch of petunias from the yard and brought them to me, and they were just darling.

Tommy Patterson 32:05

Well, I'm still back here in Western Springs. Puz is born. Where does Hinsdale come in? When was he born? Did Cap get fired during the Depression? No, these different things folded during the Depression.

Tommy Patterson 32:20

Right, but I don't mean because he was naughty. He lost a job during the Depression because he had been somewhat managerial. And then he went to work on the building gang after that? Yeah.

Anne Milton 32:35

But in the meantime, we were living in Western Springs, in that house, when Coke was born, ate her meat and came and lived with us about a month or so, and she had a job in Chicago. So she knows very well about how—what it was like just before you were born.

Anne Milton 32:54

And she cleaned out my sewing cabinet, and I told her it hadn't been cleaned since.

Koke Milton 32:59

Okay, but then you got sent by the railroad to Galesburg.

Speaker 2 33:04

Yeah.

Koke Milton 33:05

And then from there he got sent up to Wisconsin and Minnesota, or that was all. I still haven't seen how we got to Hinsdale since we already had a house in Western Springfield.

Anne Milton 33:16

We never went to Minnesota.

Koke Milton 33:19

No, I knew you didn't, but I thought you said he got sent out to help build a railroad.

Anne Milton 33:24

Uh, but no, uh, there, there.

Koke Milton 33:27

already happened.

Anne Milton 33:27

No, he was working in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Koke Milton 33:33

Yeah.

Anne Milton 33:34

and then in, then in Galesburg.

Speaker 2 33:37

Okay.

Anne Milton 33:37

And then Tom Tom was born there, and you really were obdicated then.

Koke Milton 33:48

Okay, can we do that one more time, take and get about how cute I was. Never go on.

Anne Milton 33:54

Well, the thing is, August and Kate came by to say, I want to see us. Now, you don't know who that is. That's Uncle John's second oldest son. He graduated from Purdue, and he was a civil engineer. And he owned a paint company called the Bridge Company or something like that.

Koke Milton 34:16

Okay, and he thought I was cute.

Anne Milton 34:18

Well, she didn't. Oh, she didn't. Oh, he didn't.

Koke Milton 34:22

here.

Anne Milton 34:22

He didn't come in, I don't think he came in, I think.

Koke Milton 34:25

But at any rate, and maybe there's more to tell her, I don't mean to cut you off, but I'm trying to figure out why we ever went to Penn State. I don't know.

Anne Milton 34:34

Just a minute, but while we were still in Gailburg, Town Town was just maybe a week's old alarm day. The puss could sit up in his side chair at the table, but you were in a playpen and you were over by the windows and you kept monkey -doo -ling with the curtains and fiddling with the un -cooled thing.

Anne Milton 34:54

I said, well, let's just pull that playpen away from there, and the puss said, no, you had to learn not to touch those curtains. And he got after you to make you touch those curtains, and so you did it a little bit surreptitiously.

Anne Milton 35:10

But you kept on monkey -doo -ling with the curtains, and everybody thought it was cute. Yeah. I can see that. Of course.

Koke Milton 35:18

You won't do that.

Anne Milton 35:20

Yeah, right. All right. Then we got transferred back to Chicago, so we had to come back from Hinsdale, from Galesburg, from Galesburg. We came back in our, we had rented our house. Had no house, so we took the place in Hinsdale, and we lived there a good year, I think, don't you think so?

Tommy Patterson 35:43

I don't remember to.

Koke Milton 35:45

Well, oh, it's just because we had rented the house out and couldn't move into it. Yeah We rented one ourselves in his did

Anne Milton 35:54

Yeah, and what was kind of interesting then, it was in the Depression, nothing was renting, nobody was buying anything. And this was, I think it was a very nice house. It was a Dutch, you know what Dutch Cologne looked like.

Anne Milton 36:15

And it was for rent, I think, for \$75 a month, and kept it on, we couldn't pay that. We could only pay \$45 a month. So they let us have it for \$45 a month. That's the way it went in the Depression, nobody was renting it at all.

Anne Milton 36:29

So we rented for that. And then we stayed in Hinsdale, and then during that time, he got laid off in Chicago.

Speaker 2 36:38

Wow.

Anne Milton 36:39

And then, instead of bumping the people, he went way down here and worked on the tracks for twenty -eight cents an hour. And we had that money and we had a little bit of...

Koke Milton 37:04

I don't know whether we ever managed to go into the Chicago World's Fair.

Anne Milton 37:11

Oh, by that time he was with the, well, from there he went to the Tylum Trust.

Koke Milton 37:18

But I think we're in a period where there's almost no money hard to make ends meet.

Anne Milton 37:24

Yeah, but by that time he was getting a little more.

Speaker 2 37:26

Oh.

Anne Milton 37:27

He's had more than 20, I think it was 28 cents an hour. And he went without lunch to buy me a heart -shaped box of candy for Valentine's Day. And I was all, how wonderful that was. And I kept your Christmas dresses in it until, I think, until the fire.

Anne Milton 37:45

You remember that they were in a heart -shaped box? No. In the cedar closet. They're all gone now, up in smoke. All our wedding stuff is gone. Well, then, that was it. What was it we were asking?

Tommy Patterson 37:59

getting from the railroad, so even after he bumped himself down to the bottom, he then worked for the railroad for a while.

Anne Milton 38:09

working with them at 28 cents an hour the whole time he was trying to find something and he found something at Chicago Title and Trust which was kind of an assistant to somebody that was doing appraising and he worked very satisfactorily with him for a year or two and he got to liking appraising he got to be good and so then ultimately he took appraising courses all the time he got to be what do you call that that you get to be certified

Tommy Patterson 38:39

Well, I've designated, and I don't know whether they were the same designations then as they are now. I thought we can all certify, but maybe not.

Anne Milton 38:47

He'd go on to the appraiser's thing, and then he was with the title of the trust, and then the Prudential, I don't know if they invited him or if he saw an ad or he went to get there and he got an appraising job with the Prudential, and then he was with the Prudential all the time until it was the little war when he had to go back to the service.

Tommy Patterson 39:14

but he was in the guard this whole

Anne Milton 39:17

time. Yeah, he had a little bit of a garden.

Koke Milton 39:22

Yeah, and part of the time, then with the appraisal stuff at the Prudential, I can't remember, because he took me out a few times when he was appraising buildings in Chicago when he measured some yields, and when I was young, he didn't know anything, but he always told us stories about it at dinner at home, heard a lot of stories about the elevators full of water, the elevators full of water.

Tommy Patterson 39:41

The elevator is the one that I remember.

Koke Milton 39:44

people going out and then pushing all the plumbing and all the plumbing boards and stuff.

Anne Milton 39:49

And then he had the lady up calling about the mall, the malls were bothering her so.

Koke Milton 39:55

The mods.

Anne Milton 39:55

And so he went out there to check about it, and after we didn't have any mouth problems, and he said, no, I mean, laws. He was using a mouse.

Koke Milton 40:06

Oh.

Tommy Patterson 40:08

That would be hard, he took mothballs for the mice.

Anne Milton 40:11

But he was a manager of all these buildings, for the time of trust, before he went to the credential. Being a building manager was quite, that was a difficult job.

Koke Milton 40:26

Yeah, you know hot things, didn't you?

Anne Milton 40:30

Let's see then what came next.

Tommy Patterson 40:33

Well, if he was in—I remember when he was with the Prudential, and that was when the guard in January, I think, of 1941 was inducted into the regular army before Pearl Harbor. Have I got that right?

Koke Milton 40:52

Yeah, that happened before Pearl Harbor.

Tommy Patterson 40:55

And then the first summer, he went in 41, he went down to Tennessee, and then the summer of 42 we went down there again, and he was there the whole time. And then we went out to Fort Lewis in the fall of 42.

Anne Milton 41:11

We only had one summer in Tennessee. Two.

Koke Milton 41:15

too.

Anne Milton 41:16

to someone.

Koke Milton 41:17

at the private home. Crockett's. Dr. Crockett's. Yeah. And the second time at the school. Yeah. Where I was met Charlotte Luftman of Luft, Texas. Yeah.

Anne Milton 41:28

And she was a darling girl, I thought, didn't you?

Koke Milton 41:32

Yes. I bet you it's from the office. Yeah, for sure.

Tommy Patterson 41:35

I thought she was from Lufkin, Texas. Her name was Lufkin.

Koke Milton 41:39

Her name was not.

Tommy Patterson 41:40

No. But then, some of those things, we all remember. Isn't that what I'm getting told?

Speaker 2 41:47

Yeah, I think so.